

Barnstaple Rural District.



Annual Report

— ON —

THE HEALTH OF THE AREA

VITAL STATISTICS,

SANITARY WORKS,

HOUSING, Etc.,

for the Year 1949.

BARNSTAPLE RURAL DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

— ON —

THE HEALTH OF THE AREA.

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SANITARY WORKS,

HOUSING, Etc.,

for the year 1949.

— BY —

DR. F. J. H. MARTIN

(M.R.C.S. ENG., L.R.C.P. LOND., D.P.H. OXON.)


Medical Officer of Health,

— AND —

ARTHUR J. DENNIS

(M.R.S.I. A.I.A.S.)

Chief Sanitary Inspector.



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THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

THE RED HOUSE,

CASTLE STREET,

BARNSTAPLE,

JULY, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Barnstaple Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you the Report upon the
Public Health of the Barnstaple Rural District for
the year 1949.

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK MARTIN,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Staff.

PART TIME OFFICER.

Medical Officer of Health : DR. F. J. H. MARTIN,
M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P Lond., D.P.H. Oxon.

WHOLE TIME OFFICERS.

Building Surveyor and Engineer { A. J. DENNIS,
Chief Sanitary Inspector { M.R.S.I., A.I.A.S.

Additional Sanitary Inspector { F. A. LETHBRIDGE,
A.R.S.I.

Assistant Housing Manager - W. POPE.

Assistant Architect - C. D. SQUIRE, A.I.A.S.

Clerks - { MISS C. HEARN.
MISS D. PATERSON.

Social Conditions.

The chief occupations of the District are :—

1. Agriculture.
2. Market Gardening.
3. Catering for Visitors.

The locality may be regarded as purely non-industrial,
and employment is on the whole steady.

1949.

ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Medical Officer of Health
for the Barnstaple Rural District.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in Acres	-	-	-	129,346
Population	-	-	-	23,140
Inhabited Houses	-	-	-	7,410
Rateable Value	-	-	-	£124,353
Value of a Penny Rate	-	-	-	£518 4s. 0d.

Vital Statistics.

Live Births.		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	-	183	140	323
Illegitimate	-	8	7	15
				<hr/> 338

Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 14·6.

Still Births.		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	-	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	0	0	0
				<hr/> 3

Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births 8·7.

Deaths.		Males	Females	Total
		158	160	318

Death Rate per 1,000 Population 13·7.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal Fever	-	-	0
Other Maternal Causes	-	-	1

Below is appended a Table which shows the comparative figures for the Barnstaple Rural District and England and Wales.

The Local Death Rate is shown corrected by the areal comparability factor.

Rate per 1000 Population			Death Rate per 1000	Infant Mortality per 1000 Live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births		Deaths under 1 year	Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years
Barnstaple Rural Dist.	14.6	12	10.6	23.6	0
England and Wales	16.7	39	11.7	32	3.0

Deaths of Infants under 1 year.

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	4	4	8
Illegitimate	-	0	0	0
				8
Rate per 1000 Live Births	-	-	-	23.6
Legitimate Infants per 1000 Legitimate Live Births				24.7
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 Illegitimate Live Births				0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-	-	-	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			-	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	-	-	-	0
Deaths from Cancer at all ages	-	-	-	42

Causes of Death during the Year 1949.

	Males	Females
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System -	0	3
Other Forms of Tuberculosis -	2	0
Syphilitic Disease - -	1	0
Influenza - -	1	0
Ac. Anterior Poliomyelitis and Encephalitis	2	0
Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus	3	0
Cancer of Uterus - -	0	3
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	4
Cancer of Breast - -	0	7
Cancer of all other Sites -	14	9
Diabetes - -	0	2
Intracranial Vascular Lesions -	14	33
Heart Disease - -	52	56
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	19	23
Bronchitis - -	11	3
Pneumonia - -	4	1
Other Respiratory Diseases -	1	0
Ulcer of Stomach - -	0	1
Other Digestive Diseases -	1	3
Nephritis - -	3	1
Puerperal Sepsis - -	0	0
Other Maternal Causes -	0	1
Premature Birth - -	2	3
Congenital Malformation -	0	1
Suicide - -	5	0
Road Traffic Accidents -	6	0
Other violent causes -	3	1
All other causes -	12	5
Totals	158	160

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Tuberculosis

Hawley Sanatorium, situated in the Borough, has 28 beds.

Maternity Cases

The Devon County Council is continuing to act as they did in 1947, as Agents of the Regional Hospital Board, until the Board has completed its own plans for the treatment of Maternity cases.

At the North Devon Infirmary there is a ward of 15 beds, with a fully qualified staff available for cases of doubt or difficulty.

At Bicclescombe Maternity Home, Ilfracombe, there are 20 Maternity and 4 Anti-natal beds.

There are 4 beds at Braunton Nursing Home.

Isolation of Infectious Diseases

There is an Infectious Diseases Joint Isolation Hospital at Bideford, which serves Barnstaple as well as other Local Authorities in North Devon. It comprises 32 beds (six of which are in observation cubicles) and 4 cots.

Smallpox

The Smallpox Hospital to which any cases of Smallpox will be sent is at Upton Pyne. Telephone to : Isolation Hospital, Whipton (Exeter 67158), and this is the same number for the Ambulance.

Immunization against Diphtheria

341 children received a course of primary injections and 554 children received a reinforcing injection.

Vaccination

74 children were vaccinated during the year.

General

The North Devon Infirmary, situated in Barnstaple, serves the Area, and provides modern Medical and Surgical treatment available to the residents of the district.

A Blood Bank has been established at the North Devon Infirmary.

There are 123 beds for the chronic sick at the Queen Alexandra Hospital in Barnstaple.

At Braunton Nursing Home there are 4 beds for sick persons.

Laboratory Facilities

The Laboratory is situated at 7, Dix's Field, Exeter, and Dr. Moore is the Director. It is completely installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Its Diagnostic and Consultative Services are available for all patients, and it undertakes the analysis of drinking water and milk.

The Service is extremely valuable, and is widely used by the Medical Practitioners.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

V.D. Clinic

This is held at the North Devon Infirmary Annexe.

Sessions :	Females	Males
Mondays -	4 p.m.	5-15 p.m.
Thursdays -	4-30 p.m.	5-45 p.m.

Chest Clinic

Held at the North Devon Infirmary.

Sessions :

Tuesdays	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	} Clinic and X - Ray Examinations
	2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	
Thursdays	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	
	2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.	
Fridays	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	} A.P. Refils
	2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	

Ambulance Services

Under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1944, the Local Health Authority (i.e. the Devon County Council) is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service and the Devon Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association. The Brigade serves the Borough and district, and the headquarters are in Commercial Road. The staff consists of 3 paid members (full time), 20 men volunteers, and 14 volunteer nurses.

Professional Nursing in the Homes

There are 14 Midwives appointed by the County Council in the area, and there are also four who practice privately. The 14 County Council Midwives also officiate as District Nurses.

Disinfection of Infected Bedding and Clothing

By an arrangement with the Barnstaple Town Council all infected bedding and clothing can be disinfected in their steam disinfectors.

Infectious Diseases — Age Periods

	Under	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	Total
Scarlet Fever			1		2	3	2		2	2	1		1	1						1			14
Diphtheria																							
Whooping Cough	6	1	7	7	7	8	3	2	2	2	1	3										2	49
Measles	3	12	28	25	29	27	25	23	13	14	8	9	9	2	1	1	1	2		1		6	238
Poliomyelitis			2					1				1	2	2	1						1	1	9
Pneumonia			1	1	1	1	1													1	14	19	
Paratyphoid																					1	1	
Erysipelas									1														1
Food Poisoning																					1	1	
TOTALS	-	9	13	39	33	38	39	31	27	17	16	11	11	12	3	1	1	2	—	3	1	25	332

Distribution of Infectious Diseases Cases Notified during 1949

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Measles	Polio- mye- litis	Paratyphoid	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Food Poisoning	Total
Arlington	4		1	8	1			3		12
Ashford	...		8	13						15
Atherington	...			12				3		23
Berrynarbor	...			7						7
Bishop's Tawton	...			2				2		4
Bittadon	...			3						3
Bratton Fleming	...			5						5
Braunton	2		4	2	1	1		1		11
Brendon	...			1						1
Challacombe	...			1						1
Combe Martin	1			1						2
Countisbury	...			1						1
East Down	...									—
Fremington	2		9	39	2			6		56
Georgeham	...			4				1		3
Goodeigh	...		3					1		8
Heanton Punchardon	1			2						1
High Bray	...			1	2					2
Horwood	2			12				1		1
Instow	2			12						17
Kentisbury	...			12						14
Landkey	...		4	1				1		5
Loxhore	...			4						5
Martinhoe	...			4						4
Marwood	...		6	2				1		2
Morteheo	...			18	1					26
Newton Tracey	...			7				1		8
Parracombe	...			20						20
Pilton West	...		13	7						20
Shirwell	...			2						2
Stoke Rivers	...		1	22						24
Swimbridge	...			4	1		1	1	1	7
Tawstock	...									—
Trentishoe	...			20						20
West Down	...			1	1					2
Westleigh	...									
Total	14	—	49	238	9	1	1	19	1	332

Prevalence of Infectious Diseases

The following Tables give particulars of the Infections Diseases notified during the year, together with the distribution of cases and the age groups.

Name of Diseases.				No. Notified.
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	14
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	49
Pneumonia	-	-	-	19
Erysipelas	-	-	-	1
Measles	-	-	-	238
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	9
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	0
Diphtheria	-	-	-	0
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	1
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	1
				332

Tuberculosis

New Cases

During the year 26 fresh cases of Tuberculosis were notified in accordance with the regulation.

Age Periods (New Cases)	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 to 5 years	0	0	0	0
5 to 10 years	0	1	1	0
10 to 15 years	0	0	0	1
15 to 25 years	7	3	0	0
25 to 35 years	1	2	0	1
35 to 45 years	2	0	0	0
45 to 55 years	1	2	0	0
55 to 65 years	2	0	0	0
65 and over	0	1	0	0
Age unknown	0	0	0	1
	13	9	1	3
Totals	13	9	1	3

Distribution of Cases

Braunton	-	-	8
Bishop's Tawton	-	-	1
Combe Martin	-	-	2
Fremington	-	-	2
Georgeham	-	-	3
Goodleigh	-	-	2
Instow	-	-	1
Kentisbury	-	-	1
Morteohoe	-	-	2
Pilton West	-	-	1
Shirwell	-	-	1
Westleigh	-	-	2
			—
Total			26

I desire to thank Mr. Marshall Wright and Mr. Dennis
for their help to me.

Your obedient Servant,

F. J. H. MARTIN.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR, ENGINEER, AND BUILDING SURVEYOR.

THE RED HOUSE,
CASTLE STREET,
BARNSTAPLE,

July, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of
The Barnstaple Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my fourth Annual Report of work carried out during 1949.

General

The area of your district is 129,346 acres, with an estimated population of 21,950.

This number is very considerably increased by the influx of summer visitors.

Many of the centres of population catering for visitors are without water or sewerage systems. A detailed account of the conditions appear later in this Report.

The provision of sewerage systems in many parts of your area is an urgent matter. The North Devon Water Board are making considerable progress with the provision of piped water supplies, and this, together with the influx of summer visitors, gives rise to appalling conditions in some parishes. Conditions at Bickington, Fremington, and Yelland were serious during the summer months, and it is satisfactory to know that the Ministry of Health have now agreed to portions of the Taw Sewerage Scheme being commenced in 1950 with a commencing date in 1951 for the whole scheme.

A commencing date, October 1950, has also been allotted by the Ministry of Health for the Georgeham scheme. The provision of this scheme will alleviate conditions which during the summer months beggar description.

It appears that the unsatisfactory conditions prevailing at Woolacombe will soon come to an end. The new outfall and tidal tanks are nearing completion, and will be in operation before the 1950 summer season commences.

During the year the Hele Manor sewer was extended to the factory area there, and the effluent therefrom no longer discharges into the nearby stream.

Sewer extensions to Housing Sites at Bishop's Tawton and Westleigh, and a development area at Landkey are in hand.

Routine maintenance has been carried out to the various sea outfalls in your area.

POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Regular inspections are made of rivers and streams in the area.

A sewerage scheme to remove pollution in the streams discharging on to Newbery Beach, Combe Martin, has been completed, and is working satisfactorily.

Public Cleansing.

This department is now collecting refuse as follows :—

Parish	Period.
Braunton - - -	Weekly
Combe Martin	Weekly. Twice Weekly during Summer months
Fremington - - -	Fortnightly
Georgeham and Croyde - -	Fortnightly
Berrynarbor - - -	Fortnightly
Tawstock (Sticklepath) -	Fortnightly
Tawstock Village and Hamlets -	Monthly
West Down - - -	Monthly

Parish.			Period.
Newton Tracey	-	-	Monthly
Horwood	-	-	Monthly
Landkey	-	-	Monthly
Ashford	-	-	Monthly
Swimbridge	-	-	Monthly
Cobbaton	-	-	Every Two Months
Parracombe	-	-	Monthly
Martinhoe	-	-	Monthly
Blackmoor Gate	-	-	Monthly
Kentisbury	-	-	Monthly
Bratton Fleming	-	-	Monthly
Shirwell	-	-	Every Eight Weeks
Heanton Punchardon	-	-	Fortnightly
Nethercott—Upcott—Lobb	-	-	Monthly
Goodleigh	-	-	Monthly
Brendon	-	-	Monthly
Boode and Winsham	-	-	Monthly
Loxhore	-	-	Every Three Months
Little Silver, Whitehall, Middle Marwood, Milltown,	}	-	Once every 3 Months
Muddiford, Prixford, Guineaford, Kingsheanton,			
Bittadon, and East Down			

Refuse is also collected during the Summer months from the Saunton Hotel, Army Camp, and the N.A.L.G.O. Holiday Camp at Croyde. These collections are in addition to the normal Parish collections, and are charged for as Trade Refuse.

Private Contractors collect the refuse in the undermentioned Parishes :—

Instow	-	-	Twice Weekly
Mortehoe	-	-	Twice Weekly
Bishop's Tawton	Fortnightly (Village),	Quarterly (Hamlets)	
Atherington	-	-	Monthly
Westleigh	-	-	Bi-Monthly

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

The total number of Inspections, Re-visits, and Interviews during the year was 4,132. Made up as follows :—

Visits re Infectious Diseases	-	-	62
Water Supplies	-	-	57
Sewers	-	-	196
New Drains	-	-	121
Number of Drains Tested and Inspected	-	-	221
Housing Repairs, etc.	-	-	309
Housing Act Inspections	-	-	276
Inspections and Surveys in connection with the Council's New Housing Programme	-	-	891
Building Licence Inspections and Re-visits under the Control of Civil Building Defence Regulations 56A	-	-	250
Interviews in connection with the Council's New Housing Programme	-	-	715
Inspection of Food Premises	-	-	39
Ice Cream Premises	-	-	24
Inspections required by the Ministry of Food re Catering Establishments	-	-	39
Inspections of Dairies and Cow Sheds	-	-	119
Public Cleansing	-	-	46
Inspections under the Petroleum Acts	-	-	9
Public Health Inspections, Nuisances, etc.	-	-	257
Bakehouses	-	-	12
Rodent Control	-	-	213
Factories, Workshops and Shops	-	-	21
Public Conveniences	-	-	70
Camping Sites	-	-	15
Schools	-	-	3
Visits to Refuse Tips	-	-	33
Number of Council and Committee Meetings attended	-	-	169
Number of Complaints received during the year	-	-	64
Nuisances reported to the Council	-	-	8

Total Notices Served (as under) :—

Public Health Act, 1936	-	-	1
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Shops Act, 1934.

Regular visits have been paid during the year, and conditions have proved to be very satisfactory.

Smoke Abatement.

No action has been necessary during the year under review.

Swimming Pools and Baths.

The one Swimming Pool in this district is situated on the sea shore in Berrynarbor Parish and is privately owned. Conditions are always satisfactory since the pool is covered by every tide.

Premises and Occupations Controlled by Bye-Laws.

Bye-laws are in operation for the control of Offensive Trades. There are two in this district, viz :

1. The Tannery at Swimbridge.
2. Gut Scraping Premises at Pilton West.

There is no need for Regulations in this Area in respect of underground sleeping rooms.

Bye-Laws are in force relating to Tents, Vans and Sheds.

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

During the year 1949 the undermentioned articles of Food were voluntarily surrendered as being unfit for human consumption :

Milk	-	-	-	55 tins
Beef	-	-	-	121 lbs.
Veal Loaf	-	-	-	25½ lbs.
Smoked Fillets	-	-	-	28 stone
Mutton	-	-	-	15 lbs.
Sheep's Heads	-	-	-	3
Sheep's Plucks	-	-	-	3
Danish Pork	-	-	-	24½ lbs.
Pork Sausages	-	-	-	6½ lbs.
Beef Loaf	-	-	-	12 ozs.
Ox Tongue	-	-	-	6 lbs.

Kippers	-	-	-	4 stone
Sardines	-	-	-	150 tins
Beetroot	-	-	-	17 lbs.
Carrots	-	-	-	9 lbs.
Peas	-	-	-	69 lbs.
Vegetables	-	-	-	2 lbs.
Vegetable Soup	-	-	-	24 lbs.
Beans	-	-	-	30½ lbs.
Tomatoes	-	-	-	8 lbs.
Peaches	-	-	-	4 lbs.
Plums	-	-	-	14 lbs.
Grape Fruit	-	-	-	2 lbs.
Orange Juice	-	-	-	2½ lbs.
Marmalade and Jam	-	-	-	19 lbs.

MILK SAMPLING.

The sampling of designated milks is now carried out by Sampling Officers of the County Medical Department.

Results during 1949 were as follows :—

Designation	Pass	Fail	Total
T.T.	178	78	256
Accredited	67	41	108
School Bulk	6	6	12

Catering Establishments.

64 premises have been inspected at the request of the Food Executive Officer as to their suitability for use as catering establishments.

Ice Cream.

Regular inspections of Ice Cream premises were carried out. 3 premises have been registered. 10 samples were taken, 3 satisfactory and 7 unsatisfactory. All unsatisfactory results were followed up and the necessary action taken.

Water.

A regular check was kept on the purity of public supplies during the year, and in this connection 172 samples were taken. 81 were satisfactory and 91 unsatisfactory. The unsatisfactory samples were, in the main, taken from public wells which will be superseded when the North Devon Water Board's schemes are in operation. In cases where gross pollution was indicated notices advising consumers to boil the water were affixed to the wells concerned. Advice was given in all cases of unsatisfactory results in an endeavour to effect an improvement.

Farm Water Supplies

Several Farm Water Supplies were investigated at the request of the Agricultural Executive Committee during the year.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Parish	Water Supplies	Sewerage	Population	
			1931 Census	Estimated Summer
ARLINGTON				
	No public scheme. Wells and gravitation supplies privately owned.	No public scheme. Drainage disposed of by septic tanks or soakway pits.	159	210
ASHFORD				
	As above at present.	As above.	152	193
ATHERINGTON				
	No public scheme. N. Devon Water Board owns one pump and well.	As above.	443	524
BERRYNARBOR				
	Berrynarbor is now supplied with mains water. The N.D. Water Board having laid a main from the Ilfracombe system at Two Potts, through Berrynarbor to Combe Martin.	No public scheme. Several owners have co-operated to provide three combined schemes to privately owned disposal works.	561	1560

Parish	Water Supplies	Sewerage	Population 1931 Census	Estimated Summer
BISHOP'S TAWTON	The village is served by 2 public supplies. (1) North Devon Water Board. (2) Parish Supply.	The village has a sewerage scheme with 2 outfalls, both being unsatisfactory.	827	993
BITTADON	No public scheme. Wells, etc. privately owned.	No public scheme. Drainage disposed of by owners.		
BRATTON FLEMING	Served by a public supply.	Served by a public scheme.	442	659
BRAUNTON	Public supplies in village from 2 reservoirs augmented by supply from a bore-hole.	Public scheme in village with outfall into tidal waters, which is unsatisfactory.	3019	6920
BRENDON	No public supply. Wells, etc. privately owned.	No public drainage scheme.	283	641
CHALLACOMBE	No Public Supply. Wells, etc. privately owned.	As above.		
COMBE MARTIN	Public piped supply in village augmented by a connection to the Ilfracombe system.	Public scheme in village quite satisfactory. The outfall sewer has been recovered with concrete during the year.		

Parish	Water Supplies	Sewerage	Population 1931 Census	Estimated Summer
COUNTISBURY				
	Portion adjoining Lynmouth served by Lynton Water Co. satisfactory. Villages supplied by wells ; supply precarious in dry times.	Portion adjoining Lynmouth has a sewerage scheme, with Sea Outfall. Satisfactory.	317	515
EAST DOWN				
	One public well. No public supply.	No sewerage scheme. Mainly pails.	249	312
FREMINGTON				
	Fremington and Bickington Villages supplied by North Devon Water Board. Remainder by privately owned wells.	Consulting Engineers have prepared a scheme which has been submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval.	1172	2300
GEORGEHAM				
	North Devon Water Board now laying mains from Braunton.	GEORGEHAM VILLAGE Sewerage scheme with an unsatisfactory outfall	834	3100
		CROYDE VILLAGE No sewerage scheme. Application made to Ministry of Health for permission to proceed with scheme.		
GOODLEIGH				
	Supply obtained in Village from three Public wells.	No Sewerage Scheme. Mainly pails.	223	406
HEANTON PUNCHARDON				
	Public supply satisfactory.	No Sewerage Scheme. Mainly pails.	369	401
HIGH BRAY				
	No Public Supply.	As above.	173	225

Parish	Water Supplies.	Sewerage.	Population 1931 Census	Estimated Summer
HORWOOD				
	No Public Supply.	As above.	68	75
INSTOW.				
	Supplied by North Devon Water Board	Sewerage Scheme with outfall in tidal river.	646	1630
KENTISBURY				
	No Public Supply, but a number of houses are connected to the Ilfracombe U. D. C.'s supply main, from which water is drawn and passed through filters in each house.	No Sewerage Scheme Mainly pails.	290	363
LANDKEY				
	No Public Supply. The North Devon Water Board are now laying mains from Barnstaple.	Portion of Village served by Sewer, though one is required for the remainder.		
LOXHORE				
	No Public Supply.	No Sewerage Scheme.	168	191
MARTINHOE				
	As above.	As above.	175	333
MARWOOD				
	Public supply now serving Muddiford and Milltown. Remainder of parish served by private wells.	As above. Mainly pail closets.	612	691

Parish.	Water Supplies.	Sewerage.	Population	
			1931 Census.	Estimated Summer
MORTEHOE				
	Villages of Morte- hoe and Woola- combe are served by Ilfracombe Council.	Mortehoe is served by three outfalls to the sea. New holding tanks, sea outfall, and extensions at Woola- combe are now in hand, and will be in operation before the commencement of the 1950 summer season.	1164	4700
NEWTON TRACEY				
	No Public Supply.	No Sewerage Scheme. Mainly pail closets.	110	126
PARRACOMBE				
	Portion of village served by privately owned piped supply.	Sewerage Scheme re- quired.	329	491
SHIRWELL				
	One public well, others privately owned. N. Devon Water Board now laying public mains.	No Sewerage Scheme. Mainly pail closets.	294	361
STOKE RIVERS				
	One public well. Others privately owned.	As above.	154	169
SWIMBRIDGE				
	Public Supply to 5 stand pipes. North Devon Water Board are now providing a mains supply from Barnstaple via Landkey.	There is a sewerage scheme for the village.	961	1220

Parish	Water Supplies.	Sewerage	Population 1931 Census	Estimated Summer
TAWSTOCK.				
	Portion adjoining Barnstaple Borough served by N. Devon Water Board. There is also supply to villages by stand pipes.	Hele Manor portion is connected to the Barnstaple Borough's system. Pail closets in village.	819	1310
TRENTISHOE				
	No Public Supply. Private wells only.	Pail closets.	60	150
WEST DOWN				
	Public supply from Ilfracombe Water Co.'s mains.	There is a sewerage scheme for this village. Outfall, however, is very unsatisfactory.	473	858
WESTLEIGH				
	Public and private wells. Not satisfactory. Public supply necessary.	There is a sewerage scheme with outfall in tidal river.	403	479
WEST PILTON				
	No public supply.	No sewerage scheme. Mainly pail closets.	160	200



BUILDING SURVEYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

THE RED HOUSE,
CASTLE STREET,
BARNSTAPLE.

To the Chairman and Members of the
BARNSTAPLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present the following Report illustrating the main activity of the Building Surveyor's Department during the year 1949.

Building Licences 1949.

Housing Repairs

No. of Licences granted	-	-	21
Total cost	-	-	£4,519

Re instatement

No. of Licences granted	-	-	16
Total cost	-	-	£7,561

Conversions, Adaptations and Additions

No. of Licences granted	-	-	57
No. of additional family units provided	-	-	21
Total cost	-	-	£21,338

New Dwellings

No. of Licences granted (includes 4 temporary Dwellings)	-	-	14
Total cost	-	-	£16,448

Post-War Housing Programme.

Steady progress has been maintained with your Post-War Housing Programme, but despite the increased number of houses completed by the Council the waiting list of applicants for houses has also increased proportionately.

The following Table gives the housing position at the end of the year :—

Parish.	Houses completed up to Dec 31st, 1949.	Houses under construction at Dec. 1949, but not completed.
Berrynarbor	4	—
Bishop's Tawton	—	12
Bratton Fleming	4	—
Braunton	40	10
Combe Martin	20	17
Fremington	40	5
Heanton Punchardon	16	—
Instow	6	—
Landkey	4	—
Martinhoe	4	—
Marwood	4	—
Mortehoe	18	—
Parracombe	4	—
Shirwell	—	8
Swimbridge	—	12
West Down	8	—
Westleigh	—	8
	Totals	172*
		72

*These figures do not include the houses at Blackmoor Gate (Kentisbury), nor do they include the Wartime Agricultural Cottages at Shirwell.

Housing Applications.

The following Table gives the number of Applicants on each Parish Housing List as at 31st December, 1949.

Parish.		No. of Applicants.
Arlington	-	2
Ashford	-	3
Atherington	-	2
Berrynarbor	-	12
Bishop's Tawton	-	52
Bittadon	-	1
Bratton Fleming	-	13
Braunton	-	161
Brendon	-	3
Challacombe	-	—
Combe Martin	-	63
Countisbury	-	—
East Down	-	—
Fremington	-	147
Georgeham	-	21
Goodleigh	-	4
Heanton Punchardon	-	19
High Bray	-	3
Horwood	-	—
Instow	-	33
Kentisbury	-	6
Landkey	-	8
Loxhore	-	—
Martinhoe	-	1
Marwood	-	13
Mortehoe	-	20
Newton Tracey	-	5
Parracombe	-	7
Pilton West	-	—
Shirwell	-	14

Housing Applications—(contd.)

Parish.		No. of Applicants.
Stoke Rivers	-	—
Swimbridge	-	27
Tawstock	-	1
Trentishoe	-	—
West Down	-	7
Westleigh	-	21
		—
		Total 669

Plans.

The number of plans dealt with by the Department has shown continual increase during the year, and as a guide I wish to inform you that this Department has up to the 31st December, 1949, dealt with 660 plans of the total number of 2,000 plans submitted by *all* Local Authorities in the North Devon Divisional Planning area of the Devon County Council. This figure gives a rough indication that one-third of the plans dealt with by the North Devon Planning Office concern development in your Council's area.

Details of Plans Submitted.

No. approved under Bye-laws	-	251
No. disapproved „ „	-	11
No. approved under Town Planning	-	391
No. disapproved „ „ „	-	34
No decision given under Town Planning		15
No. withdrawn after formal submission	-	12

I wish to record my thanks to each member of the Council, the Clerk, and to all members of the Department for their support and consideration during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR J. DENNIS.

